

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6042**

**BILL NUMBER: HB 1013**

**DATE PREPARED:** Jan 28, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 27, 2000

**SUBJECT:** Cultural diversity training and corrections.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Mark Goodpaster

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9852

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) (A) This bill requires the Law Enforcement Training Board to implement a cultural diversity awareness course that must be required for each person accepted for training at a law enforcement training school or academy.

(B) It requires the Department of Correction to conduct a training program on cultural diversity awareness for each employee of the department who has contact with incarcerated persons.

(C) It provides that, unless the victim of a felony has requested in writing not to be notified, the Department of Correction must notify the victim or any witness involved in the prosecution of an offender imprisoned for the commission of the felony when the offender is to be released from departmental custody under a community transition program.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2000.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) Provision A: The provision requiring a diversity awareness will cause negligible expense in adjusting officer training standards by the Law Enforcement Training Board.

Provision B: The cost of training of DOC personnel will depend upon its implementation. Currently, only supervisors receive diversity training. This bill would necessitate training for approximately 6,000 other DOC staff who have contact with incarcerated persons. One option would be to incorporate the training into the continuing education annually required for correctional officers. This could be accomplished with minimal additional cost.

Provision C will increase the costs to the Department of Correction for notifying these victims and witnesses. Under current procedures, the Department will send out a certified letter to the victims and witnesses who have been requested to be contacted when they are released from prison. The cost of a certified letter is \$2.98. The additional costs of this notification will depend on the number of offenders who would be released into the community transition programs and the average number of victims and witnesses who

would have be notified. The Department of Correction reports that the 138 offenders have been transitioned to the community transition programs between September and November, 1999. If this trend stays constant for twelve months, then 552 offenders could be released into the community transition program over a twelve month period (138 x 4). Based on the cost of \$2.98 for a certified letter, the additional cost for the Department would be \$1,645 (552 x \$2.98) if the Department would need to notify on average one victim or witness for each offender in the program. If the Department needs to notify five victims or witnesses for each offender, then the additional cost over a twelve month period would be \$8,225.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Law Enforcement Training Board; Department of Correction.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Charlie Burch, Law Enforcement Training Academy; Planning Division, Department of Correction.